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March 24, 2006

Hon. James H. Welsh  
Commissioner of Conservation  
P. O. Box 94275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Re: 8800' Sand, Reservoir B, Bayou  
Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish,  
Louisiana

Dear Commissioner Welsh:

Application is hereby made on behalf of Noble Energy, Inc. to the Commissioner of Conservation for the calling of a public hearing, after legal notice, pertaining to the following matters relative to the 8800' Sand, Reservoir B, Bayou Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana:

1. To establish rules and regulations governing the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the 8800' Sand, Reservoir B, Bayou Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana;
2. To create a single drilling and production unit for the 8800' Sand, Reservoir B, designated as the 8800 RB SUA, as shown on the plat attached hereto;
3. To force pool and integrate all separately owned tracts, mineral leases and other property interests within the unit so created on a surface acreage basis of participation;
4. To designate Noble Energy, Inc. as the unit operator for the proposed unit;
5. To designate the Noble Energy, Inc.-Perkins, et al No. 1 Well as the unit well for the proposed unit;

6. To allow the Commissioner of Conservation to reclassify the reservoir by supplemental order, without the necessity of a public hearing, should the producing characteristics of the reservoir change and evidence to justify reclassification is submitted to and accepted by the Commissioner of Conservation;
7. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent to the 8800' Sand, Reservoir B.

The 8800' Sand, Reservoir B, in the Bayou Choupique Field, is hereby defined as being that gas and condensate bearing sand encountered between the measured depths of 9,085 feet and 9,096 feet (electrical log measurements) (8,919 feet and 8,929 feet TVD) in the Noble Energy, Inc.-Perkins, et al No. 1 Well, located in Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 10 West, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

The pre-application conference was held as scheduled. In attendance were the parties shown on the attached attendance list. Travis Helms of James F. Hardwick & Associates, consulting geologist for the applicant, discussed the bases of the applicant's proposal. A counterplan was presented by David Sturlese on behalf of Charles Vincent, which differed from the applicant's proposal in the placement of the northern, western and eastern boundaries. After a period of questions and answers, the parties could not resolve their differences and the conference was adjourned. Subsequently, further discussions have produced a resolution of differences, resulting in the compromise proposal attached hereto. As a result of this compromise, no opposition is expected at the hearing on this matter.

In addition to furnishing the legal notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties, the applicant will provide for posting of the legal notice and unit plat in a prominent place in the area of Bayou Choupique Field. Additionally, the legal notice will be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of Bayou Choupique Field at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing date.

All pertinent data relating to this proposed application may be obtained **AT THE COST OF THE REQUESTING PARTY** from James F. Hardwick & Associates, P. O. Box 80972, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70598-0972, (337) 232-7756.

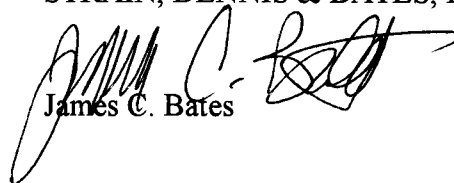
Attached hereto and made a part hereof is a plat outlining the revised proposed 8800 RB SUA in the Bayou Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. Also enclosed to the Commissioner of Conservation and District Manager **ONLY** is a list of Interested Owners, Interested Parties and Represented Parties to whom a copy of this application is being sent. Copies of this list will be provided upon request. A reasonable effort has been made to ascertain the names and addresses of

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all Interested Owners, Interested Parties or Represented Parties. Also enclosed is our check to the Office of Conservation, representing the required hearing application fee.

Very truly yours,

STRAIN, DENNIS & BATES, L.L.P.

  
James C. Bates

JCB/cmf  
encls.

cc: Mr. Richard Hudson  
District Manager

Interested Parties  
Interested Owners  
Represented Parties

